(a) whether it is a fact that Government have put the import as well as export of pulses in the category of OGL to meet the requirement of pulses in the country;

(b) whether it is also a fact that both, import and export of the pulses is made from the country; and

(c) if so, the quantum of pulses imported and exported alongwith the value thereof in years 1998-99 and 1999-2000?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): (a) Pulses are classified under Exim Code 07.13 of ITC(HS) Classifications of Export and Import items, 1997—2002. Import of all pulses except that of Australian Lupin Seeds and toxic pulses is free. However, export of all type of pulses including lentils, grams, beans and flour made therefrom except those in consumer packs upto 5 Kg. is restricted.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. The quantity and value of the import and export of pulses, for the years 1998-99 and 1999-2000 (upto November, '99), are as follows:

Import of Pulses

Year	Quantity (in '000tonnes)	Value (Rs. lakhs)
1998-99	313	40452
1999-2000 (upto November, '99)	137	18324

Export of Pulses

Year	Quantity (in '000tonnes)	Value (Rs. lakhs)
1998-99	101	21874
1999-2000 (upto November, '99)	127	27706

(Figures are provisional)

[Source: DGCI&S, Calcutta]

Decline in Tobacco Trade

1838. SHRI K.KALAVENKATA RAO:

SHRI SOLIPETA RAMACHANDRA REDDY:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is decline in the tobacco trade in the country especially in Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka; and

(b) if so, the steps proposed to allow direct foreign investment for developing and manufacturing of cigarettes in Andhra Pradesh to assist tobacco trade?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): (a) There has been no perceptible declining trend in the volume of tobacco trade.

(b) Does not arise.

CAG's Report on Export

1839. SHRI J. CHITHARANJAN:
SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) has said in its latest report that top exporters cornering bulk of advance licences issued by Directorate General of Foreign Trade (D.G.F.T.) have failed to fulfill their export obligation on advance licences;

(b) if so, the names and details of such defaulters; and

(c) the action taken, if any, against them?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): (a) and (b) The Comptroller & Auditor General (CAG) of India has conducted a detailed examination of the advance licensing scheme in Chapter 2 of Report No. 10 of 1999, which has already been laid on the table of both the Houses of Parliament on 29th October, 1999.

(c) As per the laid down procedure, an Action Taken Note (ATN) has been prepared for vetting by the Audit authorities and submission to the Parliament.

Major Shift in FDI

1840. SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA:
SHRI J. CHITHARANJAN:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a major shift has been made in the foreign direct Investment policy of Government just before the current budget session; and